



may 26, 2015

## hartford street zc news

### Without any idea of attainment

(discussion from talks on the [sandokai](#))

*Student:* [Roshi](#), every animal has a way of living, of eating, of raising its young, of relating to its world that is in keeping with the particular [dharma](#) or [dao](#) of its being. Doesn't mankind also have a particular way of living and eating and raising our young that is in keeping with our dharma or [dao](#)?

*[Suzuki Roshi](#):* Not Absolutely.

Rather, we have to make our best effort to keep the dharma---that's what these words are about. Words are necessary, you shouldn't think they are complete. We should make constant effort to produce new dharma, new precepts. We say, "This is human life." But human life is for today, not tomorrow.

Tomorrow we must have better ways to live. This kind of effort should be continued.

When we feel bad it means we should improve our way.

But you should not expect a perfect dharma that says clearly "you should" or "you shouldn't." No one can insist on thier own way, but we should appreciate thier effort to improve the dharma. Does that make sense?



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### public schedule

### SEE BELOW UPCOMING EVENTS LIST FOR CHANGES MAY 26 to 29

#### mondays

\*7:00 am zazen

\*7:40 am morning chanting service

\*last monday of each month, no morning  
schedule

6:00 pm zazen

6:40 pm evening chanting service

#### tuesdays - fridays

**Branching Streams Flow in the Darkness: Zen Talks on the Sandokai**  
 by Shunryu Suzuki (Author), Shunryu Suzuki (Author), Mel Weitsman (Editor), Michael Wenger (Editor)



hszc garden featuring a "gang of sitters" aka a few familiar, friendly faces! - 2012



## upcoming events:

**dharmatalks** @10:15am saturdays

**hszc speakers**

**Myō Lahey** - may 30, jun 6, 13, 27

**Daiko Tanzen, David Bullock** - jul 25

**guest speakers** - **Laura Burges** - jun 20; **Anshi Daigi, Zachary Smith** - jul 11; **Dale Borglum** - aug 15; **Anshi Daigi, Zachary Smith** - sept 19; **Laura Burges** - oct 17; **Fugan, Eugene Bush** - nov 14; **Ryuei, Michael McCormick** - dec 12

6:00 am zazen  
 6:40 am kinhin (walking meditation)  
 6:50 am zazen  
 7:20 am chanting service  
 7:40 am soji (brief temple cleaning)

6:00 pm zazen  
 6:40 pm chanting service

**thursdays study hour 7:30pm**

### **saturdays**

6:30 am zazen  
 7:10 am chanting service  
 7:25 am soji  
 8:30 am drop-in instruction  
 9:25 am zazen  
 10:15 am dharma talk  
 11:00 am refreshments/social\*

*\* if a ceremony applies it will occur  
 before social time*

**full moon ceremony - saturday, may 30th** - the full Strawberry Moon to the Algonquin tribes. however, in Europe they called it the Rose Moon. also because the relatively short season for harvesting strawberries comes each year during the month of june.

**study hour - thursdays @7:30pm:** the Vimalakīrti Sūtra. we can share books for anyone who wants to join in, or feel free to purchase a copy and join us (many are very low cost online, we focus on [Dr Thurman's version](#)). check our twitter page for any last minute changes in schedule.

**closure & schedule changes - [EVENING SCHEDULE ONLY for May 26th to May 29th](#).** Back to normal public schedule on May 30th.

no morning (only) zazen & chanting/service on the last monday of every month.

**founder monthly memorials** - [Issan's](#) is the 6th of each month and [Philip's](#) is the 26th (or closest dates to these if cant be on that day) evenings at 6:40pm or saturday mornings

**practice discussions at hszc are available with both Rev. Myo Lahey & Rev. Daiko Tanzen**, David Bullock. please call us, contact them directly, or email: [hszc108@yahoo.com](mailto:hszc108@yahoo.com) to request to schedule time.

### words from our Abbot: Rev. Myō Lahey

I'm pretty convinced that life is unborn although it's not an ideological issue. It's very important to realize that you are not signing on to a philosophical school. Although philosophical schools have grown up around this, that is not the point. To avoid carrying a board, we have to remember this is not about philosophy. Philosophy is more about being stayed by life. Another way of saying stayed by life is the famous story of Zhaozhou and the dog. The piece that's usually remembered is the Master is asked, "Does a dog have Buddha nature?" and the Master says, "No." This becomes the *locus classicus* of koan introspection. So they take that word as the energetic fulcrum of the practice of sitting, and not just sitting, but other circumstances too.

But there's another part of that story, and that story appears in the



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premier Soto Zen collection, the Book of Serenity. In that collection, after the Master says no, someone asks him, "I heard someone ask you, does a dog have Buddha nature, and you said, no, so does a dog have Buddha nature?" and the Master says, "yes." The student says, "so he has Buddha nature, why is he in this skin-bag?" The master says, "He knowingly and willingly transgresses." All of the sudden you have dog Boddhisattvas, and you may have met some. Another way of saying we are stayed by life is that we know and transgress anyway. And not only that, we are willing to do that. That's called entering the mud. Getting in there and wrestling with all beings because that is the Boddhisattva vow. So this question of since we know that life is not born, why are we stayed by it? Why are we tripped up by it?

[hszc dharma talk january 2013](#)



### Where's Rin?

On her walk across the US to raise awareness of Environmental Issues...



[Click here to find out!](#)

from a recent post by Rin:

"These days a certain awareness of the impact of human activity on our environment seems to cut across the range of political persuasions. It has been surprising to encounter hunters/gun enthusiasts, rodeo professionals, ranchers and hard working tradespeople, who, like me, also want to see money kicked out of politics and are concerned for their children's future, what with the abuse of shrinking global resources and the competition and violence that so often comes with it... I have been very moved by many gestures of support and feel blessed to have this opportunity to connect with people; we have much more in common than we are generally given to believe!"

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### [bike to worship date for HSZC!](#)

#### **interfaith ride**

Sunday, May 30 |

Myles Cowherd of the San Francisco Zen Center is working to organize this ride. If you're interested in participating, please let him know or send us an email and we can connect you as well.

#### **hszc building update -**

**a deep bow of thanks to Sheryl Leaf, resident student and long time sangha member, for organizing fund raising these past several years through Castro Street fair participation.** and this year for also coordinating a new water efficient back porch toilet to help our dry environment and drought in California; and new flooring for the back porch as well, which will be much easier to keep clean than the old painted plywood floor!

Thank you Sheryl-san!

**hszc history** (and present and future) - Issan's story continues to send ripples wider and wider in the water of human history. In the book [Street Zen](#) one account of Issan's life people are still feeling touched and encouraged, and we recently found it reached Spain and touched people a half a world away. We recently heard from Tony and Maria who wished to express their positive encouragement upon reading about his life and life work and even translated a GBF (Gay Buddhist Fellowship)



newsletter article which was a transcribed talk by Issan from 1995 to Spanish to be able to read it in their own language!

[Click here](#) to see the original article in English  
(Page 5)

[Click here](#) to see Tony & Maria's translated version!  
(opens in MS Word)



Sending our support & greetings to our far off world wide sangha members and wishing you calm, joy & ease. We're touched as well that our little temple's founder had an impact and influence on you all those miles away! Oh and when in the USA, San Francisco (CA)... Do stop on by to see the practice still in action that encourages our compassionate way of life still going on at HSZC today, just as it was when Issan lead this humble and deeply loved neighborhood temple.

**HIV meditation group;** weekly meditation group for those living with HIV, their friends, families, community supporters & anyone who wants to join us!

**thursdays & fridays**  
**10:30am zazen**  
**11:00am garden socializing**

**meditation in recovery;** weekly meditation group for men & women in recovery from addiction  
**fridays, 7:30pm - 9pm**

**(women only) meditation in recovery;** monthly meditation group for women in recovery from addiction  
**first thurs, 7:15pm -8:45pm**

**(men only) meditation in recovery;** a monthly meeting for men in recovery from addiction  
**3rd thurs of every month, 7:30pm-8:30pm**

**board of director meetings;** you're invited to attend & observe!  
**second weds of each month, 7:30pm**



*please contact us for rental space & events, ceremonies performed by a zen priest  
- weddings, memorials, coming of age & baby naming events*

find other sf bay area lgbtqqi community events [here](#) - or - [here](#)

national, worldwide & other, holidays [here](#) (\*warning\* some are pretty silly)



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*Branching Streams*  
MEMBER  
Affiliate Sanghas Network  
San Francisco Zen Center

Abbot, hartford street zen center --  
- Reverend Myō Lahey ---



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